

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 USIE-00 SAM-01 IGA-02 AID-05 ACDA-07

TRSE-00 OMB-01 /067 W

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9782

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 7176

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE ORGANIZATION

REF: STATE 292127

1. I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON REFTEL. I REALIZE THERE ARE SPECIAL PROBLEMS WHICH MY REQUEST RAISES; I WOULD NOT HAVE RAISED THEM IN THE FIRST PLACE IF I DID NOT BELIEVE IT WAS IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST TO DO SO.

2. I AM AT CONSIDERABLE DISADVANTAGE CONCEPTUALLY IN DEALING WITH YOUR TELEGRAM BECAUSE IT APPEARS THAT YOU ARE ASSUMING THAT AMMAN REQUIRES APPROVAL OF TEN DEFENSE ATTACHE PERSONNEL TO CONTINUE TO HANDLE SECURITY ASSISTANCE. YOU ALSO SEEM TO BE APPROACHING THE QUESTION IN TERMS OF ATTACHE OFFICES (DAO'S) BEING GIVEN AN EXCEPTION, RATHER THAN ATTACHES WE ONLY HAVE 3 ATTACHES HERE AND ONLY TWO OF THEM WORK IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE, THE DATT AND AIR ATTACHE. WHAT I NEED IN ORDER TO SATISFY MY MINIMUM REQUIREMENT IS TO PERMIT MY DEFENSE ATTACHE TO CONTINUE TO DO THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE JOB. I AM ASSUMING THE PRESENT LAW WHICH RESTRICTS

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"ATTACHES" WOULD CONTINUE TO ALLOW SEVERAL "NON ATTACHE"

ENLISTED PERSONNEL WHO PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT (NOT SECURITY ASSISTANCE IN ANY SENSE) TO ALL OF MY MILITARY PERSONNEL TO CONTINUE TO DO SO. IT WOULD BE BETTER IF, IN ADDITION TO THE DEFENSE ATTACHE, A SECOND OFFICER, MY DUAL-HATTED AIR ATTACHE, COULD ALSO BE PERMITTED TO PERFORM HIS SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUNCTIONS, BUT IT IS NOT ABSOLUTELY MANDATORY. THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN PERFORMING THESE FUNCTIONS SINCE 1957 AND 1975 RESPECTIVELY, SO THERE IS NO INCREASE CONTEMPLATED HERE. WHAT THE REMAINDER OF THE PEOPLE ARE CALLED IN TERMS OF AN OFFICE TITLE FOR INTERNAL DOD ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES CONCERNS ME LESS. BUT HERE IN THE FIELD I WOULD INSIST ON CALLING THEM THE EMBASSY MILITARY OR SECURITY ASSISTANCE OFFICE AS AT PRESENT.

3. IF THE PROBLEM IS APPROACHED IN THAT LIGHT, PERMITTING DEFENSE AND AIR AND OTHER ATTACHES IN A LIMITED NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TO CONTINUE TO CARRY ON THEIR FUNCTIONS IN REGARD TO SECURITY ASSISTANCE, RATHER THAN INSISTING ON A DEFENSE ATTACHE ORGANIZATION'S DOING IT, WOULD SEEM TO ME TO PUT THE PROBLEM IN A PERSPECTIVE WHICH THE CONGRESS AND THE HOST COUNTRY CAN CONTINUE TO UNDERSTAND AND WHICH WOULD NOT CONTINUE TO MAKE JORDAN AN EXCEPTION, BUT MERELY PART OF THE GENERAL ISSUE OF PERMITTING SOME "ATTACHES" TO CONTINUE TO CARRY ON SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUNCTIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND MY MILITARY ORGANIZATION IN TOTAL TERMS IS, I UNDERSTAND, SOMETHING ON THE ORDER OF THE SAME SIZE OF EGYPT'S, AND THEREFORE I DON'T SEE HOW AN EXCEPTION FOR ONE CAN BE DISTINGUISHED FROM AN EXCEPTION FOR ANOTHER SUCH OFFICE.

4. THUS, MY SUGGESTION IS TO SECURE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF DEFENSE ATTACHES AND SELECTED ASSISTANT ATTACHES TO CONTINUE TO CARRY ON SECURITY ASSISTANCE DUTIES. WE WOULD THEN SEPARATE THE TWO OFFICES HERE, BUT CONTINUE WITH THE DEFENSE ATTACHE AS IN OVERALL CHARGE AS DOD REP AND RESPONSIBLE TO ME FOR ALL MILITARY FUNCTIONS IN THE EMBASSY -- SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND INTELLIGENCE INCLUDED. THIS IS SO CLOSELY ANALOGOUS TO WHAT WE ARE ACTUALLY DOING NOW AS TO CAUSE BASICALLY NO CHANGE. WE WOULD BE IN THIS RESPECT IN MUCH

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THE SAME POSITION AS OTHER COUNTRIES WITH A SMALL DEFENSE ATTACHE STAFF WHICH WOULD PRESUMABLY BE PERMITTED TO, OR AUTHORIZED TO, SUPERVISE OR OVERSEE SECURITY ASSISTANCE FUNDING.

5. IF THIS PROPOSAL DOES NOT FIT IN WITH THE LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT IN WHICH YOU ARE PREPARED TO OPERATE, (CONTEXT IS NOT VERY CLEAR HERE FROM REFTTEL) WHEN WE WOULD

RELUCTANTLY BE FORCED TO REDUCE OUR ATTACHE STAFF TO AN ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHE. ATTACHE OFFICE WOULD HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO DO AND I CANNOT HAVE PEOPLE HERE DECORATING OFFICES WHO HAVE NOTHING TO DO. THIS WILL CAUSE SOME POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS IN THE JORDANIAN MILITARY. FOR EXAMPLE, THE RJAF TOOK GREAT PRIDE IN THE FACT THAT (IN 1975) WE DUAL-HATTED OUR AIR FORCE SECURITY ASSISTANCE SECTION CHIEF AS AIR ATTACHE, AND WILL CERTAINLY BE INSULTED WHEN EW HAVE TO CHANGE THIS. WE WILL PROBABLY HAVE SIMILAR PROBLEMS WITH THE JAF AS A WHOLE. UNDER SUCH A PROPOSAL, I WOULD THEN INSIST THAT WHOEVER IS THE SENIOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE REPRESENTATIVE BECOME THE DOD REP, AND EXPECT HIM TO BE THE SUPERVISING AND REPORTING CHANNEL FOR ALL MILITARY IN THE EMBASSY SO FAR AS THE LAW WOULD CONTINUE TO PERMIT HIM TO DO SO. THIS WOULD RESULT IN SOME POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH THE JORDANIANS, A SERIOUS REDUCTION IN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, --NOW ON AN EXCELLENT FOOTING BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL ENTREE SECURITY ASSISTANCE GIVES MY ATTACHES-- AND SOME DAMAGE TO OUR NATIONAL INTEREST SO FAR AS OUR OVERALL GOOD MILITARY RELATIONS WITH JORDAN AND KING HUSSEIN ARE CONCERNED.

6. IN SUM, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WE CAN STOP WORRYING ABOUT THE "AUGMENTATIONS" OF MY DAO OFFICE BY SEPARATING SECURITY ASSISTANCE FROM IT. WE CAN THEN CONTINUE THE PRESENT HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS, BY SECURING PERMISSION FROM CONGRESS FOR THE DEFENSE ATTACHE AND AIR ATTACHE TO CONTINUE WITH SECURITY ASSISTANCE DUTIES AS THEY PRESENTLY ARE, AND AS I PRESUME WE WILL SEEK AUTHORITY TO DO IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

7. FINALLY, COL. MANN, PRESENT DATT WILL BE IN WASHINGTON ON OTHER BUSINESS ON DECEMBER 9 AND 10 AND IS FULLY CONFIDENTIAL

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PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS WITH YOU IN DETAIL.
PICKERING

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